

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07

INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06

SAM-01 OES-06 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07

EUR-12 FRB-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 /120 W

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R 230525Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6703

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 7533

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG, PK,

SUBJECT: US REPRESENTATIONS ON CIEC

REFERENCE: STATE 181094

1. EMBOFF CALLED ON MFA DIRGEN (UN AFFAIRS) MUNIR AKRAM JULY 22 ON SUBJECT MATTER AND LEFT AN AIDEMEMOIRE CONCERNING THE AMERICAN POSITION ON CIEC. MUNIR AKRAM SAID THAT THE GOP WAS "DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED" OVER THE RESULTS OF THE PARIS MEETING. HIS DELEGATION HAD BEEN "SHOCKED" THAT AGREEMENT WITH THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ON THE DEBT QUESTION COULD NOT BE REACHED.

2. TO UNDERSTAND THE PAKISTANI SENSE OF PESSIMISM, MUNIR AKRAM SAID IT WAS NECESSARY TO GO BACK TO THE TIME OF THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION. HE NOTED THAT HE WOULD BE EXPRESSING HIS OWN PERSONAL READING ON THE SITUATION, NOT THE OFFICIAL GOP POSITION. HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO EMBOFF, HOWEVER, TO HAVE ONE PERSON'S APPRECIATION OF THE SITUATION IN WHICH PAKISTAN NOW FINDS ITSELF. SECRETARY KISSINGER'S SPEECH, IN PAKISTANI
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EYES, HAD APPEARED TO OFFER A SOUND FOUNDATION FOR

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE DEVELOPING AND DEVELOPED WORLDS. THE GOP HAD HAD "GUARDED OPTIMISM" THAT THE MAJOR ISSUES BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES COULD BE WORKED OUT AMICABLY AND WITHOUT CONFRONTATION.

3. SINCE THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION, HOWEVER, THE GENERAL TREND HAD SEEMINGLY BEEN DOWNHILL. THE GOP WAS DEEPLY DISAPPOINTED BY THE RESULTS OF UNCTAD AND FELT THAT THE CIEC MEETINGS IN PARIS HAD BEEN DISASTROUS NOT ONLY FOR THE INTERESTS OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD BUT FOR THE HOPES OF ESTABLISHING A SENSE OF TRUST AND GOODWILL ON BOTH SIDES. MUNIR AKRAM SAID THAT THE PAKISTAN DELEGATION TO PARIS FULLY UNDERSTOOD THAT THERE WERE MANY ISSUES OF HIGH POLITICAL CONTENT ON WHICH BOTH SIDES COULD REASONABLY DISAGREE, SUCH AS ON COMMODITIES. BUT ON DEBT, HE STATED, THE GOP HAD GONE TO PARIS FIRMLY BELIEVING THAT AN AGREEMENT WAS BOTH POSSIBLE AND DESIRABLE. THE DEVELOPING WORLDS' POSITION ON DEBT WAS IN PAKISTANI EYES A REASONABLE ONE. BASICALLY, THE G-19 WANTED TO SEE ESTABLISHED A GENERAL FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH THE MEDIUM RANGE DEBT PROBLEMS OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD, IN A DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT, COULD BE ADDRESSED. HE ADDED THAT THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION HAD TOLD PAKDEL THAT IT WAS WILLING TO CONSIDER DEBT RELIEF QUESTIONS ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS, AND THE GOP UNDERSTOOD THIS POSITION AND IN CASES OF DEBT CRISIS AGREED THAT SUBJECT MUST BE CONSIDERED ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS. WHAT THE G-19 HOPED TO ACHIEVE, HOWEVER, AND BELIEVED WOULD BE ACHIEVED, WAS A FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH THE DEBT QUESTION COULD BE DISCUSSED OVER THE YEARS THEREBY HOPEFULLY AVOIDING THE INCREASING FREQUENCY OF CRISIS SITUATIONS WHEN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ARE FACED WITH AN OVERWHELMING DEBT BURDEN.

4. WHEN IT BECAME EVIDENT THAT AGREEMENT ON DEBT WAS NOT POSSIBLE, MANY OF PAKISTAN'S FRIENDS IN THE DEVELOPING WORLD POINTED TO THIS AS AN EXAMPLE OF THE LACK OF INTEREST AMONG THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES IN HELPING THE DEVELOPING NATIONS OUT OF THEIR ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES. MUNIR AKRAM AGREED THIS WAS OVERDRAWN BUT SAID IT RECONFIDENTIAL

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FLECTED A DEEPLY FELT BELIEF. THE PAKISTAN DELEGATION ITSELF LEFT PARIS DESPAIRING OF ANY HOPE THAT A CONSTRUCTIVE AND MUTUALLY-BENEFICIAL DIALOGUE CAN BE CONTINUED. HE SAID QUOTE IF WE COULD NOT REACH AGREEMENT ON AN ISSUE SUCH AS DEBT, WHERE OUR POSITION WAS REASONABLE AND WHERE THE BASIC INTERESTS OF THE DEVELOPED WORLD WOULD NOT BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED, THEN WHAT CHANCE IS THERE OF FINDING A COMMON GROUND ON THE MORE DIFFICULT

QUESTIONS? UNQUOTE

5. MUNIR AKRAM ADDED THAT PAKISTAN MUST NOW ASK ITSELF WHERE IT MUST GO. HE NOTED THAT BEFORE UNCTAD, THE PRIME MINISTER HAD EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL BELIEF THAT THERE WAS NO HOPE OF REACHING AGREEMENT WITH THE DEVELOPED WORLD. SINCE NO AGREEMENT HAS NOW BEEN REACHED, AND THE GOP DOUBTS IT WILL BE REACHED ON THE BASIC QUESTIONS SEPARATING THE NORTH AND SOUTH, PAKISTAN MUST NOW DEFINE A NEW ROLE FOR ITSELF. IN THE PAST, HE SAID, THE GOP HAS SEEN ITSELF PLAYING A VERY MODERATING INFLUENCE IN THE THIRD WORLD FORA IN THE HOPE THAT THE DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING NATIONS COULD REACH UNDERSTANDING THROUGH COOPERATION. NOW THAT THIS HOPE IS LESSENERED, PRESSURES ARE BUILDING UP TO PAY CLOSER ATTENTION TO THE MORE RADICAL LINE AS ILLUSTRATED BY THE ALGERIAN POSITION. PAKISTAN THEREFORE HAS TO MAKE A CHOICE: EITHER TO CONTINUE AS A MODERATE VOICE IN THE THIRD WORLD BUT RISK SEEING ITS INFLUENCE SLIP AWAY AS THE THRID WORLD BECAME MORE RADICALIZED, OR ITSELF BECOME MORE HARDLINE, AND HOPE THEREBY TO RETAIN ITS INFLUENCE IN THE THIRD WORLD. ONLY IN THIS WAY COULD PAKISTAN PLAY A ROLE IN HELPING THE THRID WORLD REMAIN NEUTRAL IN POLITICAL TERMS AND LESSEN THE POSSIBILITY OF INCREASED COOPERATION BETWEEN THE THIRD WORLD AND THE SOVIET UNION.

6. CONCERNING THE PRIME MINISTER'S THIRD WORLD SUMMIT PROPOSAL, MUNIR AKRAM SAID IT GREW OUT OF THE GROWING DISENCHANTMENT AMONG THE PAKISTANI LEADERSHIP WITH THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE. NOW THAT THE POSSIBILITY OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO WORLDS IS MUCH LESSENERED, THE PRIME MINISTER FEELS EVEN MORE STRONGLY THERE IS A ROLE TO PLAY IN HELPING THE THIRD WORLD LEADERS MEET TOGETHER
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AND DEFINE COMMON POSITIONS.
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